

### **Amendments to the Claims**

Please amend the listing of claims as follows:

1. (Original) Method of producing polyesters, comprising a crystallisation of a polyester material, wherein the crystallisation is carried out in the presence of a gas with a dew point of (less than or equal to)  $\leq$  approximately -10 °C.
2. (Original) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the dew point lies in the range from approximately -10 °C to approximately -85 °C.
3. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one of the previous claims~~Claim 1, wherein the gas ~~iscomprises~~ air, nitrogen or a mixture of them.
4. (Currently Amended) Method according to Claim 3, wherein the gas ~~iscomprises~~ nitrogen.
5. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one of the previous claims~~Claim 1, wherein the intrinsic viscosity I.V. of the polyester material during the crystallisation rises by approximately 0 to approximately 0.11 dl/g.
6. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one of the previous claims~~Claim 1, wherein the dew point of the gas is set in dependence of the desired rise of I.V.
7. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one of the previous claims~~Claim 1, wherein the crystallisation is carried out at temperatures of approximately 150 °C to approximately 230 °C
8. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one of the previous claims~~Claim 1, wherein the temperature during the crystallisation is continuously increased by up to approximately 20 °C.
9. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one of the previous claims~~Claim 1, wherein the crystallisation is carried out for up to approximately 10 h.

10. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one of the previous claims~~Claim 1, wherein the crystallisation is carried out in at least two stages.

11. (Original) Method according to Claim 10, wherein the 1<sup>st</sup> stage of the crystallisation is carried out at a lower temperature than the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage of the crystallisation.

12. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one of the Claims 10 or 11~~Claim 10, wherein the 1<sup>st</sup> stage of the crystallisation is carried out at a temperature of approximately 150 °C to approximately 210 °C and the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage of the crystallisation is carried out at a temperature of approximately 180 °C to approximately 230 °C.

13. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one of the Claims 10 to 12~~Claim 10, wherein the 1<sup>st</sup> stage of the crystallisation is carried out for up to approximately 2 h and the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage for up to approximately 8 h.

14. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one of the Claims 10 to 13~~Claim 10, wherein the 1<sup>st</sup> stage of the crystallisation is carried out using a gas flow under turbulence.

15. (Original) Method according to Claim 14, wherein the 1<sup>st</sup> stage of the crystallisation is carried out in a fluidised bed reactor.

16. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one of the Claims 10 to 15~~Claim 10, wherein in the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage of the crystallisation the polyester material (i) flows under mechanical disturbance and the gas in counterflow, (ii) under mechanical disturbance and the gas in uniflow and (iii) without mechanical disturbance and the gas in uniflow.

17. (Original) Method according to Claim 16, wherein the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage of the crystallisation is carried out in a shaft crystalliser.

18. (Currently Amended) Method for the production of a polyester formed body, ~~wherein polyester material is obtained using a method according to one of the previous claims, comprising a crystallisation of a polyester material, wherein the crystallisation is carried out in the presence of a gas with a dew point of (less than or equal to) < approximately -10 °C, and producing a polyester formed body.~~

19. (Original) Method according to Claim 18, wherein the polyester formed body is selected from the group consisting of bottles, films, filaments, fibres and technical high strength threads.

20. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one of the Claims 18 or 19~~Claim 18, wherein polyester material is used without carrying out a solid state polycondensation in a following reaction stage for the production of the polyester formed bodies.